

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
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R 251410Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1345
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USBERLIN
USMISSION USNATO
USLO PEKING

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, GW
SUBJECT: GENSCHER REPLIES TO CHARGES OF "SELF-FINLANDIZATION"

REFERENCE: STATE 202818

1. FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER HAS SPOKEN OUT SHARPLY AGAINST ALLEGATIONS THAT ELEMENTS OF THE SPD ARE PRODDING THE FRG IN THE DIRECTION OF "SELF-FINLANDIZATION." GENSCHER'S REMARKS WERE A RESPONSE TO RENEWED OPPOSITION CHARGES -- FUELED BY THE EVANS AND NOVAK ARTICLE (REF A) -- OF AN FRG DRIFT AWAY FROM THE US AND NATO.

2. IN AN AUGUST 23 INTERVIEW, GENSCHER DISPUTED REPORTS OF "SELF-FINLANDIZATION" TENDENCIES WITHIN THE SPD. HE SAID FRG FOREIGN POLICY PURSUES A CLEAR, UNAMBIGUOUS
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COURSE "ESPECIALLY WITH REGARD TO THE PARTNERSHIP OF A FREE EUROPE WITH THE US AND THE WESTERN DEFENSE ALLIANCE." CONTINUING, GENSCHER SAID "NOW AND IN THE FUTURE THERE IS NO ACCEPTABLE ALTERNATIVE TO THE SOLIDLY BASED ALLIANCE." GENSCHER STRESSED THAT A REALISTIC POLICY OF DETENTE CAN ONLY BE PURSUED ON THE BASIS OF THE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE.

3. COMMENTING ON SINO-SOVIET RELATIONS, GENSCHER SAID THE FRG WAS NOT ATTEMPTING TO EXPLOIT DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PEKING AND MOSCOW. HE EMPHASIZED THAT THE FRG CONTINUES TO PURSUE GOOD RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION. AT THE SAME TIME, BONN SEEKS TO PROMOTE PEACEFUL TRADE WITH ALL STATES, AND THE PRC NATURALLY DESERVES A "SPECIAL RANK BECAUSE OF ITS WORLD-POLITICAL WEIGHT."

4. COMMENT: THE RECENT SOVIET MEDIA CAMPAIGN PRAISING GERMANY AND FRG-SOVIET RELATIONS HAS ADDED TO OPPOSITION ASSERTIONS THAT THE FRG IS BECOMING TOO COZY WITH THE SOVIETS AND NEGLECTING TIES WITH THE US. OUR ANALYSIS OF SITUATION FOLLOWS SEPTTEL.
MEEHAN

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